

**Testimony regarding: S.B. No. 932 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STAFF
QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS**

Submitted By:
Jill Lamberti Director

Good afternoon Sen. McCrory, Rep. Sanchez, and members of the Education Committee. My name is Jill Lamberti Director, and I live in East Haven.

I am honored to be presenting testimony on the issue of S.B. No. 932 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STAFF QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS.

This is an issue that is very important to me. Good Morning I am a Early childhood professional working in the field of ECE for the past 22 years, When I first started out I was making minimum wage with no credential As the years went on I obtained my degrees and became a State of Connecticut Consultant . This cost money and lots of commitment to the field of ECE. Today I teach in the field of ECE as an adjunct professor in a community college and I see that with my students that they hold full time jobs, children and families to care for and not a lot of time for themselves. Preschool teachers are required to have the same credential as a public school teacher why not pay them for what they are worth? They work just as hard to achieve their degrees as a public school teacher does in some cases even more. . We need to be able to retain our teachers if we are willing to help educate them. This will reduce the staff turnover if we can pay them a decent wage. Everything is going up including the cost of an education, why not treat our teachers with the respect they deserve. Thank you Jill Lamberti

This needs to change so we can retain our staff year after year, this affects the children when they see too many teachers in a classroom and cannot understand what happen to their teacher they begin to act out.

This is an issue that will impact the educational well-being and future of Connecticut's young children, and requires immediate action. Teachers will be happier and it will help with the staff turnover . This will allow a center or school to continue to provide quality childcare

I appreciate the opportunity to testify about S.B. No. 932 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STAFF QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS. Thank you for your consideration.